

WHAT THE EDITOR SAYS

Public Ledger
DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY, BY
THE PUBLIC LEDGER CO.

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IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.

A Word to Republicans.

The hope of the party lies in the expansion of a stalwart Republican press. The Republican who reads or otherwise helps to support a Democratic paper to the exclusion of one of his own party newspapers is untrue to the Republican cause.

Unanimously subscribed to by the National Republican League.

J. S. CLARKSON, President.
A. B. HUMPHREY, Secretary.

TAMMANY knows that the election of CLEVELAND means an anti-Tammany organization in New York that can do them more harm by masquerading as Democracy than the Republicans can.

DEMOCRATIC newspapers are printing revised and corrected editions of BOURKE COCHRAN's great anti-Cleveland speech "as a model of oratory." The oratory is good but the facts are better.

In twenty years there has been only one Democratic candidate for President whose nomination was favored by Tammany. And yet Tammany knows well that none will ever be elected without it.

THE Democrats hope to obscure their Free-trade plank by raising a big enough racket about a "force bill." There is no force bill in issue in this campaign. Protective Tariff, honest money, and a free ballot and a fair count are the issues.

THE Democratic objection to an appropriation to secure a site for the statue to be erected of General SHERMAN has not yet been withdrawn, and the statue paid for by contributions from old soldiers is still looking for a resting place.

THE lively interest and competition shown in the nomination of Republican candidates for Congress all over the country show that the Republicans are determined to carry Congress with the Presidency this year, and to send their best men to Washington to look after the public business.

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THOSE Free-trade attorneys who are accustomed to exalt "cheapness" as the goal which every Nation should strive to reach usually point to the revenue PROTECTION VS. Tariff period of FREE-TRADE PRICES, 1846-60 as one in which all things were pre-eminently "cheap." And it is true that in that period many articles could be bought at low prices, owing to the fact that wages were extremely low and labor correspondingly degraded. Yet it is a fact that not one article can be named to which we have given continuous and adequate Protection that is not cheaper to-day than it was then. Let us take, for instance, the two articles of pig iron and cut nails, and compare their prices during the Free-trade period with those ruling to-day:

Free trade—	Pig Iron, Ton, 2240 pounds.	Cut Nails, Keg, 100 pounds.
1847.....	\$30 25	\$4 50
1848.....	26 50	4 25
1849.....	22 75	4 00
1850.....	20 80	3 71
1851.....	21 38	3 28
1852.....	22 63	3 13
1853.....	36 12	4 85
1854.....	36 88	4 76
1855.....	27 75	1 10
1856.....	27 12	3 92
1857.....	26 08	3 72
1858.....	22 25	3 53
1859.....	23 38	3 86
1860.....	22 75	3 13

Prices of Pig Iron and Cut Nails during fourteen years of Protection and during fourteen years of Free-trade.

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1858.....	22 25	3 53
1859.....	23 38	3 86
1860.....	22 75	3 13

Average 14 years, \$29 21

Protection—

Protection—	Pig Iron, Ton, 2240 pounds.	Cut Nails, Keg, 100 pounds.
1878.....	\$17 03	\$2 31
1879.....	21 50	2 69
1880.....	28 50	3 08
1881.....	25 12	3 09
1882.....	25 75	3 47
1883.....	23 38	3 06
1884.....	19 88	2 39
1885.....	18 00	2 33
1886.....	18 71	2 27
1887.....	20 92	2 30
1888.....	18 88	2 03
1889.....	17 75	2 00
1890.....	18 40	2 09
1891.....	17 52	1 86

Average 14 years, \$20 78

Cheaper in period of Protection, \$5 43

IN the case of both pig iron and cut nails there has been a progressive fall in price until to-day they are cheaper than ever before. The next time the Free-trade "reformer" speaks to you of that beautiful revenue Tariff period of 1846-60 just ask him to produce some price lists of articles in those days and compare them with price lists of the same articles to-day. That would be the most convincing way of dispelling some of the cloudy impressions that now hover around the "golden era."

THIRTEEN Jersey City ballot-box stuffers had their hair cut and stripes put on them in the New Jersey penitentiary in the last week in June. This looks hopeful for Republican success this fall.

GROVER to his party: "I am not seeking this office, gentlemen, but if you do not take me you ruin the party. To be sure I said I would never take a second term, but I did not know then that I would grow so big that there would be no Democratic party if I were to be taken out."

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HOLDEN'S STATEMENT.

The Professor Thinks if Mars is Inhabited It is By Esquimaux.

LICK OBSERVATORY, Cal. Aug. 4.—Ed. S. Holden, of Lick Observatory, said Wednesday night regarding the opposition of Mars:

"We have replied to many inquiries received during the present opposition of Mars. These inquiries indicate widespread interest, but in many cases they appear to be based on misapprehension of the work now being done on the planet and elsewhere. We are simply endeavoring to observe more accurate information regarding the planet. That is all. Future oppositions, in which the planet will be seen at greater altitude, will be more favorable even if the planet is not more distinct, for it will be nearer the zenith than now. We also wish to know how nearly Mars resembles the earth, and whether it is fit to be inhabited by beings like ourselves. It has been proposed by certain enthusiastic astronomers to determine this question. In my opinion the time has not yet come to even speculate on this question. My reason for saying this is that I think it very doubtful if all the observations yet made are sufficient to enable us to pronounce even the lesser points we seek.

"There is very little doubt but that by and by science will interpret all, or nearly all, of the phenomena now seen, and to arrive at certainties. Just now only a few things are certainly known with respect to our nearest planetary neighbors. We are now giving nearly all the time of our great telescope to this work. We have found great changes in details of surface, while the main outlines have remained much the same. These changes have seemed to be so great that it is often difficult to explain them by terrestrial analogies.

"If there are people on Mars, I think they are Esquimaux. If the red areas are land and the dark ones water we can describe great inundations which have taken place, and might mention the fact that where there are now lakes there was only one in 1877. Some time during next autumn we shall have finished our observations. It is very probable that we can then draw some conclusions which are certain, and it is possible that considerable new light may be thrown on this problem. I think I am justified in saying that no more could have been done than has been done. If the results are not definite the reason must be in the extreme difficulty of the problem in hand."

LAND SHARKS.

How They Played Their Cards and Roped to Innocent Farm Buyers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4.—Three indictments found by the grand jury Wednesday reveal a swindle of gigantic proportions, in which some four hundred people, principally from the east, have been badly bitten.

The victims reside in nearly all the large cities of the east, including Chicago and New York. Two of the swindlers, O. E. Moore and T. H. Downing, are within reach, but the third, A. Hoyt, is in Mexico. In 1887, Moore bought from the millionaire farmer, John Boggs, 14,000 acres of land in Tehama county, adjoining Senator Stanford's vine ranch. Not a cent was paid for it, the basis of the transaction being long credit. Within a very few days Moore had plastered the place with a seventy-thousand-dollar mortgage, the Savings union of this city being victimized. Then he sold two-thirds of the place to Hoyt and Downing, and organized the California Land Co. and called the tract "The Elmore Colony."

Circulars were issued and a gorgeous magazine was published offering five-acre tracts for \$1 a week on each acre, the total price being \$15 an acre. Four hundred victims were secured. Some paid up in full and got worthless deeds. A few months ago Downing transferred his interest back to Moore. Downing took no pains to protect the colonists' interests, and soon after Hoyt fled to Mexico to escape the results of embezzlement. Last year Moore started a dime-savings bank here, swindling many poor people before the bank examiners shut him up. The remarkable feature of the Elmore colony fraud is that absolutely nothing has been done to develop the property.

The savings bank has now begun suit for \$63,000, which the colony owes it. When Boggs and the bank are paid there will be nothing for the poor colonists who have put their savings into the scheme.

FIVE HUNDRED ARRESTS.

WARDNER, Idaho, Aug. 4.—Gen. Carlin and Maj. Randall have returned here from Ft. Sherman. The troops will be here for an indefinite time, as the United States commissioner has warrants for the arrest of 500 men, some 300 of whom are yet to be served. It has been represented in the petition to both governor and president that men have been designated for the assassin's knife or bullet, and that existing evidence proves the assertion.

Mars Has an Atmosphere.

NORTHFIELD, Minn., Aug. 4.—Observations taken at Lovell's observatory have been unsatisfactory, as Mars has not yet reached its highest altitude. One of the moons has been visible for thirty hours, but the other eludes observation. No startling discoveries are expected, although an atmosphere is clearly visible.

Adial Stevenson in Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Aug. 4.—Hon. Adial Stevenson, democratic nominee for vice president, accompanied by Mrs. Stevenson and J. Stevenson Ewing, Stevenson's law partner, reached the city Wednesday evening, to be present at the dedication of the Watterson club's new house.